

**Internal Services Department
ARRA Status Report
Update – March 10, 2011**

I. ENERGY RELATED GRANTS

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant

The Board accepted the grant of \$15.4 million on October 13, 2009. Activities include:

- Community Scale Retrofit Program - \$12,774,200
 - Whole House Program Retrofits (County-wide)
 - Green Workforce Development
 - Contractor Outreach and Training
 - Public Education, Outreach and Incentives
- Municipal Building Retrofit Program - \$1,554,125
- Green Building Ordinance and County Green Building Implementation - \$280,825
- Regional Climate Action Plan - \$803,250

Community Scale Retrofit Program (Energy Upgrade California)

ISD received funding from three sources in support of a program to promote Whole House energy efficiency upgrades across the County; \$12.5 million from the EECBG formula funding, \$30 million from the EECBG Competitive grant (aka Better Buildings Program) funding, and \$8 Million Intergovernmental Contract with the California Energy Commission.

The program was originally planned around a County-wide property assessed clean energy financing (PACE) district. Due to opposition from financial regulators, this type of financing has been delayed across the country, causing a reprogramming of PACE efforts. ISD is now focusing efforts and programming grant funding to reach energy efficiency retrofit goals by participating with Southern California Gas Company (SCG) and Southern California Edison (SCE) to promote and support the utilities' Whole House Retrofit Rebate program. ISD worked with the California Energy Commission to help create a statewide program which incorporates the utility rebates as well as the County's goals of promoting renewable energy, called Energy Upgrade California.

This unprecedented, statewide, branded program leverages Los Angeles County grant funding with approximately \$35 million in rebate, marketing, and contractor training funding from SCE and SCG. Energy Upgrade California in Los Angeles County also leverages County ARRA funds with statewide partners and local governments to reduce customer confusion, expand the program's reach and

effectiveness, and ensure that the County reaches its goals of job creation, energy savings, and greenhouse gas reductions. Currently, 73 cities have adopted a resolution to participate in the County's energy program which makes them eligible for program promotional materials and other community support.

Energy Upgrade California launched to the public on March 1, 2011 as part of a statewide rollout which included media relations and paid advertising in Los Angeles County. Countywide television and radio ads, as well as focused print, and outdoor advertising drive the public to the Energy Upgrade California website to learn about the program, find qualified participating contractors, obtain basic information about energy efficiency and renewable energy, and find rebates available in their area. Residents can also enter the Home Energy Makeover Contest (funded entirely with Better Buildings Program grant dollars; see next major grant section), and be eligible to win one of six Home Energy Upgrades ranging in value from \$10,000 to the grand prize winning "Near Zero Energy Use" makeover valued at \$50,000 (www.EnergyUpgradeCA.gov).

Media relations and community events are elements of the overall program that will be ongoing throughout the grant period. ISD and the consultant team are working with field deputies for each Supervisorial District in communities where focused outreach is being done. Contractor recruitment and training also continue. A Diversity Plan was developed and is being implemented to ensure that contractor recruitment and participation are representative of the Los Angeles County residents served.

Municipal Green Building Retrofit Program

The project to consolidate and virtualize computer servers at the Public Works Headquarters is complete, as is a lighting retrofit at the DCSS Headquarters. The contractor for the Chatsworth County Courthouse retro-commissioning is now surveying the building to determine what energy savings options are viable for the project.

Implement Green Building Ordinance

ISD will use additional EECBG funds for outreach, training, and facilitation of meetings in support of the County Green Building Ordinance. Additionally, ISD will implement green building training programs targeted for County personnel. Contractors have been selected to complete this work and final award documents are under development. Training and outreach activities should begin in April 2011.

Regional Climate Action Plan

ISD will implement the Regional Climate Action Plan in two segments. First, ISD will coordinate a Climate Action Plan that contains greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategies for the County's unincorporated areas. Second, through participation in the Los Angeles Regional Collaborative (LARC) for Climate Action and Sustainability, the County will oversee the completion of a County-wide Regional Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory, which will quantify greenhouse gas emissions across the County. In support of this effort, ISD will utilize a sophisticated greenhouse gas emissions model under development by the University of California, Davis, which will inform emissions reductions strategies moving forward.

Federal Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program: Competitive Grants

The Board accepted the Federal Better Buildings Program (BBP) grant of \$30 million on May 25, 2010.

As the lead agency on this State-wide partnership grant, Los Angeles County will manage the overall \$30 million dollar grant, which includes approximately \$14 million to support LA County's efforts with Energy Upgrade California in Los Angeles County (EUCLA), while the remainder of the grant is designated to our other State-wide partners and co-recipients.

The BBP grant objective is to create and test innovative pilot programs which will drive the implementation of more Whole House retrofits in certain, discrete regions. This program will identify the most successful pilots for replication throughout the State and the country. The pilot programs to be implemented in Los Angeles County include:

- HVAC contractor outreach and partnerships
- Green building labeling for residences
- Financial incentives for multi-family retrofit projects
- Community based social marketing strategies utilizing third-party stakeholders and including third-party incentives
- Whole neighborhood strategies for promoting and implementing home retrofits

The first BBP pilot to launch in Los Angeles County is the Home Energy Makeover Contest, which is open for applications from March 1 to March 31, 2011. The contest is a Community Based Social Marketing pilot and features 20 finalists who will win a state of the art home energy use assessment valued at \$500, 5 winners who will each receive a \$10,000 energy efficiency upgrade (one in each Supervisorial District) and a grand prize winner whose home will receive a Near Zero Energy Use makeover worth approximately \$50,000.

The County's application included: the Association of Bay Area Governments, the California Center for Sustainable Energy (representing local governments in San Diego County), and Sacramento Municipal Utility District (representing local governments in Sacramento County). The agreement with the DOE was executed on June 10, 2010. On August 17, 2010, the Board authorized ISD to negotiate and execute sub-recipient agreements with the regional partners under this grant.

Intergovernmental Contract with the California Energy Commission (CEC)

The Board accepted the CEC grant award of \$8 Million on June 15th, 2010.

The California Energy Commission grant extends the implementation of Energy Upgrade California for Los Angeles County program into the incorporated cities, allowing an increase in the delivery capacity of building professionals for energy efficiency programs. It will allow the program to further drive consumer demand for retrofits through marketing and outreach strategies that leverage existing community and private sector distribution channels. These funds will also support workforce development efforts and participating contractor support. It will also allow collaboration with national, state and utility programs. The State Energy Program grant provides for nearly \$5 million to be used toward the creation of scholarships in order to build up the retrofit work force.

Agreements have been signed with South Bay COG, Westside Cities COG, and the San Gabriel Valley COG to provide marketing and outreach support for Energy Upgrade California. The Energy Coalition, an existing consultant on the County team, also signed a work order agreement to provide marketing and outreach for those cities not represented by a COG, and for the cities represented by the Gateway Cities COG as Gateway Cities COG chose not to accept ARRA funding due to reporting requirements. A city marketing online resource library was developed for a marketing toolkit, and COG and city staff will be trained to promote the program.